



State Senator

August 2005

# VALDE GARCIA

Serving the 22<sup>nd</sup> District

Shiawassee-Livingston-southern Ingham counties

## A Glimpse of Current Legislation & Critical Issues Neighborhood Enrichment

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### PROTECTING OUR KIDS:

#### *Program Designed to Create Amnesty for Child Support Arrearages*

Michigan's legislature is providing parents with an opportunity to pay-off child support arrearages that they may have accumulated without penalty beginning October 1.

During a 90-day time period, parents facing criminal prosecution or civil penalties related to failure or refusal to pay child support will be waived if the individual satisfies their entire arrearage during the designated amnesty period (with the exception of felony prosecutions that are underway or if the payer has already been arrested on failure to pay past due support).

For more information regarding this opportunity, please visit [www.michigan.gov/dhs](http://www.michigan.gov/dhs) or call (800) 540-0008.

Are you having problems collecting child support or would you like to report an individual for being neglectful in their child support payments?

Please visit  
[www.paykids.com](http://www.paykids.com).

This site is sponsored by Michigan Attorney Generals' office and has already helped put numerous offenders behind bars.

### IDENTITY THEFT VICTIMS HAVE A NEW RESOURCE

The Michigan State Police are now better equipped to handle cases of identity theft thanks to the creation of a full-time "Identity Theft Team."

The Team will investigate cases involving theft or the misuse of personal identification information to obtain goods, services, credit and fraudulent bank accounts or to facilitate other criminal activity.

Should you or someone in your family become a victim of identity theft, please call the Team at 1-877-MI-ID-THEFT or visit their website at [www.michigan.gov/identity-theft](http://www.michigan.gov/identity-theft).

### HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Office of Financial and Insurance Services has added a new section to its web page that provides consumers with basic information regarding health insurance and health coverage in Michigan. The site includes resources for coverage options, HIPAA rules, group coverage terms, HMOs, health savings accounts, discount health insurance sites and much more!

Go to [www.michigan.gov/ofis](http://www.michigan.gov/ofis) for all of your health insurance questions.